

I am very concerned about how the media influences the political process, and dispenses news that can affect the future of our country. I am particularly concerned by an apparent growing bias in news reporting.

Of more immediate concern to me, and as an example, I hear that Sinclair Broadcasting decided to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election. If they do, it would be a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

You are playing an important role in safeguarding our democracy. Please fulfill that role to the fullest. Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard.

Thank you.